

those present have voted in the affirmative.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PASSPORT SERVICES ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4501) to amend the Passport Act of June 4, 1920, to authorize the Secretary of State to establish and collect a surcharge to cover the costs of meeting the increased demand for passports as a result of actions taken to comply with section 7209(b) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4501

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Passport Services Enhancement Act of 2005".

SEC. 2. AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF STATE TO ESTABLISH AND COLLECT A SUR- CHARGE TO COVER THE COSTS OF MEETING THE INCREASED DEMAND FOR PASSPORTS.

Section 1 of the Passport Act of June 4, 1920 (22 U.S.C. 214) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking "There shall be collected and paid" and inserting "(a) There shall be collected and paid"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(b)(1) The Secretary of State may by regulation establish and collect a surcharge on applicable fees for the filing of each application for a passport in order to cover the costs of meeting the increased demand for passports as a result of actions taken to comply with section 7209(b) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-458; 8 U.S.C. 1185 note). Such surcharge shall be in addition to the fees provided for in subsection (a) and in addition to the surcharges or fees otherwise authorized by law and shall be deposited as an offsetting collection to the appropriate Department of State appropriation, to remain available until expended for the purposes of meeting such costs.

"(2) The authority to collect the surcharge provided under paragraph (1) may not be exercised after September 30, 2010.

"(3) The Secretary of State shall ensure that, to the extent practicable, the total cost of a passport application during fiscal years 2006 and 2007, including the surcharge authorized under paragraph (1), shall not exceed the cost of the passport application as of December 1, 2005."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Mem-

bers may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4501.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bill represents a bipartisan and bicameral measure. We have worked with our colleagues on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to draft a bill that will assist the State Department in meeting the ever-increasing demand for U.S. passports. The 9/11 bill required that Americans carry a passport when reentering the United States from travel to countries in the Western Hemisphere. This requirement is greatly increasing the demand for passport services.

This bill, which has been approved by OMB, will allow the State Department to collect and retain a surcharge of approximately \$5 to \$8 on each passport. Because the State Department expects there to be a decline in the actual cost of issuing each passport, there will not be an increase in the current price for issuing passports, which is now \$97.

Presently, the U.S. Treasury receives the revenues from fees charged for the issuance of a passport. As a result of this legislation, the State Department will keep part of the passport fee. The bill narrowly defines the uses permitted of the proceeds from this surcharge. It is for the cost of additional personnel, mailing and similar operational costs that are necessary to keep up with the increased passport workload. The authority for the Department to collect this surcharge will expire in the year 2010. Congress will be able to assess whether this surcharge continues to be necessary.

This is an important measure that has been requested by the Secretary of State, and the text has been worked out between the majority and the minority of both the House International Relations Committee and the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee. I urge support for H.R. 4501, as amended.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this measure. The measure before us would amend the Passport Act of June 4, 1920, to authorize the Secretary of State to establish and collect a surcharge to cover the costs of meeting the increased demand for passports as a result of actions taken to comply with section 7209(b) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004.

Mr. Speaker, the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act requires U.S. citizens to obtain and utilize passports when reentering the United States from other foreign jurisdictions within the Western Hemisphere. The

Department of State, therefore, is facing a massive increase in demand for passports in anticipation of this new security requirement. Our Secretary of State estimates that demand could grow from less than 9 million applicants in fiscal year 2004 to over 17 million a year by the end of fiscal year 2008.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of State desperately needs the resources to increase its passport adjudication and production capabilities to meet this demand. Our measure will enable the State Department to collect the new surcharge from passport fees and provides the Secretary with the authority to use the proceeds from this surcharge to pay for the staff, equipment, and facilities she will need to meet this critical national security mandate.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this critical piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4501, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF ITEMS IN WAR RESERVES STOCKPILE FOR ALLIES, KOREA

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1988) to authorize the transfer of items in the War Reserves Stockpile for Allies, Korea.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1988

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION. 1. WAR RESERVES STOCKPILE FOR AL- LIES, KOREA.

(a) AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER ITEMS IN STOCKPILE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 514 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321h), the President is authorized to transfer to the Republic of Korea, on such conditions as the President may determine, any or all of the items described in paragraph (2).

(2) COVERED ITEMS.—The items referred to in paragraph (1) are munitions, equipment, and materiel such as tanks, trucks, artillery, mortars, general purpose bombs, repair parts, barrier material, and ancillary equipment if such items are—

(A) obsolete or surplus items;

(B) in the inventory of the Department of Defense;

(C) intended for use as reserve stocks for the Republic of Korea; and

(D) as of the date of the enactment of this Act, located in a stockpile in the Republic of Korea or Japan.

(3) VALUATION OF CONCESSIONS.—The value of concessions negotiated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be at least equal to the fair market value of the items transferred, less any savings (which may not exceed the fair market value of the items transferred) accruing to the Department of Defense from an avoidance of the cost of removal of such items from the Republic of Korea or of the disposal of such items. The concessions may include cash compensation, services, waiver of charges otherwise payable by the United States (such as charges for demolition of United States-owned or United States-intended munitions), and other items of value.

(4) TERMINATION.—No transfer may be made under the authority of this subsection after the date that is three years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) CERTIFICATION REGARDING MATERIEL IN STOCKPILE.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall certify to the appropriate committees of Congress whether or not the ammunition, equipment, and materiel in the War Reserves Stockpile for Allies, Korea that are available for transfer to the Republic of Korea is of any utility to the United States for any of the following:

(1) Counterterrorism operations.

(2) Contingency operations.

(3) Training.

(4) Stockpile, pre-positioning, or war reserve requirements.

(c) TERMINATION OF STOCKPILE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—At the conclusion of the transfer to the Republic of Korea under subsection (a) of items in the War Reserves Stockpile for Allies, Korea pursuant to that subsection, the War Reserves Stockpile for Allies, Korea program shall be terminated.

(2) DISPOSITION OF REMAINING ITEMS.—Any items remaining in the War Reserves Stockpile for Allies, Korea as of the termination of the War Reserves Stockpile for Allies, Korea program under paragraph (1) shall be removed, disposed of, or both by the Department of Defense.

(d) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(1) the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and International Relations of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

□ 1430

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the Senate bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATHAM). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Senate bill 1988, a bill to authorize the transfer of items in the War Reserve Stockpile for Allies, Korea.

Section 514 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 provides no U.S. Department of Defense articles which have been set aside for future use by any foreign country may be made available for that country's use, unless the transfer is authorized under that act, the Arms Control Export Act, or subsequent corresponding legislation. Consistent with that provision of law, Senate bill 1988 would authorize the President to transfer to the Republic of Korea certain obsolete or surplus U.S. Department of Defense munitions, equipment, and other materiel.

The prepositioned stocks established by the U.S. Department of Defense in Korea and Japan in 1973 in order to supplement Korea's military sustainment now constitutes an aging stockpile. Senate bill 1988 would permit the Department of Defense to seek concessions, such as fair market value, from the Republic of Korea in exchange for the transfer of these stocks to Korea's inventory. This approach would be consistent with the ongoing realignment of the United States Armed Forces in Korea and the objective of increased Korean self-sufficiency. It would also reduce the costs to the United States, otherwise necessitated by transporting this materiel back to the United States for disposal and demilitarization.

Senate bill 1988's provisions are nearly identical to those contained in section 752 of House Resolution 2601, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act for the Fiscal Years 2006 and 2007. H.R. 2601 passed the House on July 20 by a recorded vote of 351-78. The Senate has not yet completed floor consideration of a Foreign Relations Authorization Act. It passed a stand-alone bill, Senate bill 1988, on November 9, 2005, authorizing the transfer of these stocks to the Republic of Korea. Since timely action was necessary to assure the proper management and the disposition of reserved stocks located in that region, this limited purpose bill is before us today. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this measure, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will grant important authorities to the United States military related to stockpiles in South Korea. In particular, it will allow the United States to sell or transfer equipment to the South Korean military for use or disposal.

This will ensure that the United States is not forced to transport unnecessary or obsolete military equipment back to the continental United States at a considerable cost.

The authority contained in this legislation must be renewed from time to time, and that time has, once again, come. The authority remains an important tool in our defense strategy and should be renewed.

This legislation is a good government bill, Mr. Speaker, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1988.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TERRORIST REWARDS ENHANCEMENT ACT

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2329) to permit eligibility in certain circumstances for an officer or employee of a foreign government to receive a reward under the Department of State Rewards Program.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2329

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Terrorist Rewards Enhancement Act”.

SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES FOR AN AGENCY OF A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT TO RECEIVE A REWARD UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE REWARDS PROGRAM.

(a) ELIGIBILITY.—Subsection (f) of section 36 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708(f)) is amended—

(1) by striking “(f) INELIGIBILITY.—An officer” and inserting the following:

“(f) INELIGIBILITY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), an officer”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) EXCEPTION IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.—The Secretary may pay a reward to an officer or employee of a foreign government (or any entity thereof) who, while in the performance of his or her official duties, furnishes information described in such subsection, if the Secretary determines that such payment satisfies the following conditions:

“(A) Such payment is appropriate in light of the exceptional or high-profile nature of the information furnished pursuant to such subsection.

“(B) Such payment may aid in furnishing further information described in such subsection.

“(C) Such payment is formally requested by such agency.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (b) of such section (22 U.S.C. 2708(b)) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by inserting “or to an officer or employee of a foreign government in accordance with subsection (f)(2)” after “individual”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the